

AN ESSAY CONcerning the affurance of Gods love, and mans faluation; gathered out of the bolf Softprores.

By NICHOLAS BYFIELD, one of the Preachers for the Citty of CHESTER.

# Con. 13.5.

Exemine your felucs whether yee he in the faith: prome your owne felues. Knowe ye not your owne felues, how that Jefus Christ in in you except ye be reprobates.

LONDON,
Printed by IOHN BEALE for.
IONAS MAN. 1614.

HE SIGNES

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# AM ESSAY COM-

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forus !

Print d by to us heart.



# TO THE

TR VELY RELIgious, and his most affoctionate frend, Mistris
lane Ratclife, wife to Milohn Ratclife, Esquier,
Alderman and fusice of
peace, late Maine
of the Chile of



## The Epiftle

impertanitie, of dinerfe of my heavers, and the expectation of many of all forts, together with my de fire to yeeld fome account of my long undelightfull leasure, have inclined me to prepare some of my publike and prinate labours , for the common view : boping that the abounding respect of my friends will cover the wants, and weakene ffes which other men will fooner espie. Howseuer 1 have long meditated, a worke of greater labour, then this enfuing treatife get in the meane time I hane

#### Dedicatorie,

have beene willing to tast the approbation of good men, and make my best advantage of the consures of the many minded multitude, by adventuring to send foorth these first finites, as a handfull gathered out of the rest.

Worthie Gentlewoman, there are manie reasons induce me to publish these signes under your name, your singular love and liking of my ministerie, together worth your reverent and willing entertainement, of faithfull Ministers (receiving them as the messengers of the

#### The Epille

the Churches, and the glorie of Chift as partners and follow helpers, walking in the same spirit) challengesh from vs some publike testimonie of our acknowledgemet of Gods grace, and of the 10%, voberewith ove reingeed for your fake; besides confant indeanour to make ve of all opportunities. for your resolution, and direction, in the senerall conflicts, and cases of your conscience . I have had occasion fully to know your order, and manner of life, your defires, purpoles teares to vprightnes.

#### Dedicatorie.

nes, your faith, your love, your obedience: and therfore being assured, that you are marked even with enerse one of thefe signes, why should I not (ay unto you, as somtimes lob faid of himselfe. Behold your fignes that the Almightie wil witneffe for you, And I am well affured, that this treatife will finde good accesse unto the hands and bearts of divers in these parts, even for the lone they beare toyon, and for the good they nove beare you have by experience reaped from thefe

10b 31.39

#### The Epiftle

these. Neither had I beene easily drawne to publish these, but that having occasion in conference with many to make vie of the, I could hardly satisfie them with coppies. I spare to alleadge other reasons.

Novvvvbat remains but that I should be seech you, and all those who finde by these signes the assurance of Gods eternal love, even to honour the Lord with the continual sacrifices of praise, the fruite of your lips, with confession to his name, oh love the Lord with your whole

Heb, 13

#### Dedicatorie.

whole heart, and make his praise glorious, and abound more and more, in the fruites of sincere life, and in all hely, and humble connerfation, line by faith, and in nothing be carefull but in all things, let your requests be made knowne to God, with thanksgining : and as you have received mercy faint not neither be descoraged under the sence of your infirmities and voants, for they that waite upon the Lord, (ball renewo their strength, the Lord vuill power bis spirit uponyour feede, & bis blef ling

Phil,4,6

1, Cor,4,1

Efa.40, 31

EG,44,4

#### The Epiftle

Ma,14,3

Hob-5-15

2 Cor-12

1.Sam-1,9

Pfa.66,8,9

fing upon your bads : the funne of righteoufneffe will arise, and there is healing under his wings. You have a high Prieft, that is touched with infirmities, and therefore you may goe boldly to the throne of grace, to feeke grace and mercy to helpe in time of neede:the power of God is made knowne in vveakenesse, and his grace will be sufficient: the Lord keepeth the feete of his Saints, and will supplie all your vounts with his riches in glory. Bleffed be the Lord that boldeth our foules in life, and

#### Dedicatorie.

and Suffereth not our feete to be moued.

Gracious gentlewoman be consident in this, that God which hath begun his good worke will performe it, till the day of Christ for his foundation remaineth fure : and bee ener lineth that maketh interce fion for you, and the mortall feede abideth, and Christ will be Omega as well as Alpha, the end as well as the beginning: neither feare the reproach of men for there is a hiding place with the Lord, from the Strife of tongues ; and he will put

Pfa.1,6

3.Tim, 3, 19. Heb, 7, 39

Reuar.

Pfa.31, 20

#### The Epiftle

Pfal,31,18

Pet A. V

to filence the fe lying lipps that (peake fueb grienous things, fo proudly, fo contemptuoufly : vvaite on the Lord, and keepe bis waie; they fall a furedly make an account to the Indge of quicke and dead, that speake enill of the innocent, And the fame God and father of mercie that bath directed, your beart unto his love, and refreshed your Spirit with the unspeakeable ioies of his presence, finish bis owne worke in you : and as you have professed, a good profession before many that will witne fe, bow

#### Dedicatorie.

how unblameably you have behaved your felfe among them that beleene; fo standfast in the Lord, be fil an example of faith and puritie, of lone and fernencie, of meekene ffe, and humilitie, of tendernesse, and harmelefnesse, of shamefastnesse, and sobrietie, of mercie and good workes, as becommeth a woman professing godline fe, that they may bee ashamed which shall falfely accuse your good conversation in Christ, keepe the Doctrine you bane received, Seeing you bane learned Christ, as the

### The Epiffle

the trath is in him. Strine to increase in love and obedience to your busband and care of your chrildren & familie and frew all faithfulneffe, and diligence in your particular calling Prouoke your kindred and acquaintance onto repentance, faith, praier love, fellowship in the Gospell, and good workes, that thankfeiuing may be given by many to God for you. Let the word of Christ bee fill your guide : watch unto praier, receive them that feare God, and make much of fuch. Let pati-

#### Dedicatorie.

ence have ber perfect worke, and commit your waies to God, and trust in him. The Lord make you to abound in love yet mme and more, in knowledge, and in all judge. ment, that you may still approve things that are excellent, and be blamelesse in the middest of a crooked & permerfe people : the Lord perfect in you what soever is vvanting, and fulfill the good pleasure of his goodnesse, and the worke of your faith with power. The Lordincrease in you that holy conetous nesse, to be with

The Epiftle, &c.

with the Lord, looking for the bleffed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saniour Iesus Christ.

Farewell, May, 1614.

Yours according to the common faith,

N. BYFIELD.



# ASHORT

Treatise concerning



Oncerning the affuraunce of Gods fa-

uour, three things may be confidered of. First the proofes, Secondly, the Lets. Thirdly, the fignes.

That a Christian in this life may be infallibly affured of Gods fa-

В

uour

uour to himself in particular, and that hee ought to feeke this affurance, as a matter of fingular necessity, these places of Scripture proue. The Apostle Paul chargeth the Corinchians to Examine themselves, whether they be in the faith, and requireth this prouing of them-Selves with such earnestne fe, that be faith, know geenst your owne felues, how that Christ Tefus is in you, except ye be repre-bates? As if he would auouch it, that a man can neuer have found com-

a,Cor.13.

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comfort of his election till he get this affored knowledge of Gods fayour in Chrift. And the Apostle Peter exhorts Christians to vie all diligence to make their calling and election fure what foeuer car. nall persons speake against it, lob vehemently defires there were a perpetual record of his words, when he speaks of his affurance, that no man might thinke he spake paffionately, or vainegloriously He knew that his redeemer lined and that at the laft B 2 day carrin-

a Pet.t.

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lo b.19.33 35.26, 27. 4

1.Coresi

2, Cor.5.1

4 .34.74

day, his very flest bould beraifed, on he should fee God with ioy By the Spirit of God a Christian knowes the things of God yea to this end baue we received this Spirit which is of God, that wee might know the things which are freely ginen ws of God : yea it learcheth the deepe things of God. And in the econd of the Covinthians Gods children are faid to know their glorification : as certainely as by sence and experience, they know, that their bodies, which are their earth-

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of Gods power towards them, vpon this affurance, Paul knowes whom hee hath beleeued, and no afflictions should hinder him, but he will settle, vpon this perswalion, that God will keepe his foul, which he hath comitted to him against the day of Christ. The Apostle John faith, We know that we have paffed from death to life, And again, ye may know that ye have eternall life. And again weknow that wee are of God And the

Apostle to the Epbeli-

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1.lob.3.14

a.Tim.t.

13.

1.Ioh.5.13 1.Ioh.5'19

ansfaith, that in Chriff Eph.3.11. we bane boldne fe and acceffe with confilence by faith en him: yeathe very words of affurance are found in Scripture where it is shewed, that we may have much affurance, yea full affurance, yea the riches of full affurance; and men are earneftly exhorted, to vse all diligence to get this full affurance to the end; and when it is once had, neither death, nor life, nor Angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor

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1. Thof.L. Heb. 10, Col, 3.2

Heb. 6, 11

height,

Rom.8.38

height, nor depth, nor anie other creature should be able to seperate them from this loue of God in Jesus Christ.

# Lets,

He attainment of the sence, power,& comfort of this assurance is exceedingly hindered in all sorts of people. First, For many can neuer attaine it, because they are forestalled with euill opinions about it, they thinke it

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is impossible to be had, or it is needeleffe, or it is presumption to seek it, or it would prooue anurle to lecurity if it were had. Secondly, in the most, common hope ferues the turne and supplies presumptuously theroome of this sacredgift, Thirdly, many heare & protelle, and goe farre in the opinion of others, and yet get not affurance; because they take not a foud course for the mortification of thebody of finnes that are passed, whereas it B 5

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is certain afforance can never be had, till there be some sound course taken, in the acknowledgement, bewailing, and reformation of them. Fourthly, besides a barraen life is an vncomfortable and vnletled life, and contrariwife to abound in Gods worke, bath stedfaftnesse, and a secret rest of heart, as an vnspeakeable companion of it. Fifthly Melancheh also (that is terrors and gricfes, of which a man can yeelde no true reason) is in divers

s.Cor.15.

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a mighty let to the fetled affurance they might haue. They are fo eaten vp with those frong conceits that all the comfort is propounded most anend, prooues as water fpilt vpon the ground efpecallywhen this humor is nourithed by tome extraordinary diftemper of the body, Pnyficke not arguments of Scripture must here be vied, or rather both of them. Sixthly, the loue of earthly things is an other great impediment many professors haue

haue their thoughts and cares fo caten vp with worldlineffe, that they cannot ferioully hold out to follow the directions requifite to the attainement ofafforans. This grace requires a minde fome way fitted for contemplation. It is a knowledge will neuer be had with looking downcward, Scuenthly, further, many are lo paffionate and froward, they can get no rest in their heart, when as ful affurance would bee lodged in an humble and

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& quiet breft. Eighthly, others want affurance, because they neglect the meanes of Eph 1.17 affurance, which are the word, praier, or fellowship in the Gospell. Ninthly, In fome therelodgeth some secret sinne vnr epented of, and this either keepes out faith, or keepes it downe in the cradle, that it can get no strength. Lastly, affurance is the gift of God, and hee bestoweth it on whom hee penedoci solico illiw nous for bolgthe

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Phi, 1 5,6

# The fignes generally propounded.

Here are fixteene infallible fignes of a child of God, as may appeare by the testimonie of most apparent Scripture.

Mat.5.3.

First, Powerly of spirit; for the poore of spirit are blessed and theirs is the kingdome of heaven.

2 Cor.7.

Secondly, Godly forrow, for it causeth repentance, not to be repented off, euen such a repenrepentance as is vnto

Thirdly, the love of the word, for this is a fure comfort in affliction, and may quicken a mans heart, this is a fanour of life vnto life, in them that are faued.

Fourthly, The lone of Gods children; for hereby we know wee are passed from death to life, because weeloue the brethren.

Fifthly, Faith; for godfo loued the world that hee gaue his onely begotten fonne, that who foeuer beleeueth in Pal,119.

2 Cor, 2.

1.10h.3.

1.Cor. 13. 1.1.3.

Rom.8, 9.

Scuenthly, The spirit of Adoption. For it beareth witnes to our spirit that wee are the sonnes of God: and if anie man hauenot the spirit of Christ, he is nothis.

Eighthly, Hoh defirer. For euery one that that thirsteth, shal baue of the water of life freely. & if they will heare, their foules shall liue, and enioy the sure mercies of Danid, they are blessed, and they shall be satisfied,

Ninthly, The spirit of praier or supplication; for whosoener calleth on the name of the Lord shall bee saned.

To The obedience of Christ, for he is the author of eternall faluation to them that obey him.

> I I Sauing knowledge

Reuelas6

Efay553,2 3:4-

Mat. 5.6.

Ioel 2,32

Zach,13,

Hab. 5.9.

Ioh.17.3.

ledge. For this is eternall life, to know God, and whom hee hath fent Iesus Christ, It is not onely a signe of eternall life or saluation, but the beginning and part of it.

12 The Sacraments in the right vsc of them are infallible signes of our saluation, and to that end ordained, for her that belieueth and is baptised shall bee saued. Hence it is said, Baptisme saueth vs: they are sure seales of the righteousnesse of faith.

Mar.16,11

1.Pet.3,21

Rom.4.11

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ring of Christ,

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The fignes particularly expounded; and first of pouertie of Spirit.

Spiritual pouertie may bee tried either by properties, or by effect.

Gods poore have eight properties.

First, They are sensible, and that first of their owne wants and misery, by nature and daily sinne. Secondly, they know when they see Gods iudgements, that it was the word of the

Zach.II.

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the Lord. Thirdly, they tremble at Gods word, and feare his difpleasure, while it yet hangs in the threat ning.Fourthly,theyare sensible of that speciall goodnesse of Gods mercy ; when a man is poore and needie, he can fay with Danid; mercie is good. Fifthly, they are fensible of their owne mortalitie; they have feeling impreffions of their fa-

Secondly, they are thankfull, and that for leffer mercies; a poore Efay 66.1.

Pfal, 109.

Pfal 109

man

man is glad of a pennie, whereas a rich man cannot bee touched with so small a fanour, Gods poore will praise Gods name for the very crums that fals from his table: and as anic are more poore and humble, they are more thankefull.

Thirdlie, they are teachable, and willing to bee appointed and infructed; it is a great figne a mans heart is not humble, when he must have so much to doe, before he can bee perswaded in tomanie

treeth

trueth, or disswaded from anie sinne: pride and ignorance is hard to learne.

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nie th Fourthly, they are hungrie people, especially greedie after the food in Syon, they loue it, they desire it, they esteeme it, they are satisfied with nothing better then with it, it is the reliefe of their hearts foreuer.

And there are fine effetts of spiritual properties.

He first is praier: for Gods poore line Pfal,12.26 & 132-15 liue by begging, if hee be poore, hee will crie vnto God.

The second is Abnegation: for this poore man, renounceth his owne merits, hee seeth no good will be had by descruing; for hee descrutch nothing but Gods curse in all things hee forsaketh also the world, both in the susts of it, and in the companie of the wicked, and all earthly things, as not having the chiefe good in them.

The third is diligence in Gods worke; nec

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yea Gods poore are willing to do the meanest and hardest worke God will be pleased to set them to: so as they may finde fauour in his eies to be accepted with him, they would account no worke too base for them to doe, but they would bee glad to doe anie thing they could with their best desires and endeanours.

Fourthly, Gods
poore, commit themfelues & all their waies
to Gods care and mercie; they will onely
C truft

Pal, TI.14

a feare to offend God in word or deede, by their good will they would doe none iniquitie nor speake lies.

quitie, nor speake lies, a deceitfull tongue should not be found in their mouth, Gods

poore and Gods Turtle doues are all one; so in seperable are harme lesse innocencie and

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Zeph.3.11

Zech.3.13

Pfal.74.19

## 2. Godlie forrow.

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know whe ther our forrowes be Godly, if we confider. First, the causes. Secondly, the properties. Thirdly the concomitants. Fourthlie, the effects of them.

For the first of them wee must consider what raiseth our forrowes and what asswageth them, for godlie forrow, is chiefelie raised for sinne: and so C 2 for

for the finnes of the time, because others

Ezech.9.4

keepe not the law. For Exechiel doubt not to mark them with Gods marke, that mourne for the abhomination done in Ierusalem; but

Pfart9.36

Efay 6. 5.

And further in forrow for our owne fins. we must mourne, for al forts of finnes for leffer fines, aswell as greater, for finnes of our calling, for secret sins

wee must wnderstand that this forrow must bec fimple, because God is dishonored.

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that presnelle trouble vs, a lwell as for finnes pall : for the fins feared and the corrupting clination of our natures, for beeloued, gainefull and pleafing finnes finally for the es uill of our good works afwe las for euil works. Now there are two notes of great vie, in triall of forrow for our finnes; the one is, that wee must forrow for finne as it is finne; and the other is, that a man should not easily fatilfie himselfe in the mea. fure, till he can mourne C 3 29

Rom 7.

Efay 1,16

Zac, 1310,

as much for finne, as he was wont, or now would for losses. The Prophet Zacharias in-Stanceth, when he faith; the spirit of God, shold cause them to mourne as in the familie, as one would mourne for the loffe of their onely fonne, or as in the common wealth, the fubices would doe, for the loffe of a most worthie Prince. He mentioneth their forrow for Tofiah, yet wee must know that teares are not of accessitie, and specially in such natures,

tures, as are voide of teares, for anic other caufes.

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Secondly, in almuch as forrow may be Godly even for judgements wee must understand that herein our triall wil be, if we can mourn rather for spirituall iudgements, then for temporall: and among the rest, if we can feele, and bewaile hardneffe of heart, mourning be- Efry63.17 cause we canormourne as we ought, and farther if we can be grieued as well for the offence of God as for pu-

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nish-

Pfal.41,3. 3 137.

Neh 1.# 4

nishment.

Thirdly, a christian is principally firred vp in true forrow, by the fence of Gods goodneffe; fo as nothing doth more fire him to a defire to abase himselfe and to humble himselfe, cuen in the veric dust, in the sence of his owne vilencile, then to feele and finde the gracious goodnes and readinesse of God to flew mercie. Hefeareib the Lord and his 200dneffe.

And as godlie forrow israiled by spiri-

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tuall meanes and confiderations, fo it is alswaged onely by spirituall meanes, those forrower that can be healedby sports, merric companie or the like, are much like the medecines vsed to helpe them; but in godhe forrow, the same God shat wounded them must heale, and a chrifria desires helpe from the same word that pierced him

Ho,6,1,1,

Thus of the canfes.

Properties of god-

lie forrow which among the reft, we must labour after, and without which we canhardlie haue true affiftance, that our forrowes are right. and an annew

First, it is inquisitine, it is a hard thing ro make forrow filent, and hee that is truelic pricked in his heart, cannot with contentment mother his doubts, hee will aske the way to Sion, and cannot reft till be have knowne what to doe to be faued, those that finde so little to aske,

and

Ist.50.45

ACL: 3.37.

and can be so silent in the presence of Gods servaunts, by whom they might bee directed, may suspect their sorrowes.

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Secondlie, it must not rest in the beginnings, or probabilities, or hopes, or others good opinions, or the mending of manie things sout a Christian that is truelie humbled will repent stil, though he haue turned, that is, he is so fearefull of being deceased, through the corruption of his owne heart, and the wiles

en 33.19

wils of Sathan, that he will constantlie hold on to confesse and bewaile his sinnes, till he may finde assured rest vnto his soule.

Thirdlie, it will admit nothing against God, but it makes a man condemne himselfe, rather then God; when David lay in that mournfull plight, that he could finde no comfort night nor daie, for a long season, and that the question was to be debated whether God had forgotten to bee mercifull, &c. Hee resolutes

Pfa.77. 1.

folues; the fault was in himfelfe that it was his infirmitic, and that his foule refuled comfort.

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Fourthlie, it will not reft without cleanenesse, godsie sorrow is not water, but washing nor every washing, but such as maketh cleane: worldlie sorrow may have much water, but cleanseth nothing, but godsie sorrow greatsie desireth and loueth puritie.

Thus of the causes and properties conceraing the concomitants

there

Efrans

there are diverferhings doe accompanie godlie forrow, by which it is differned; for,

First it is joyned with a fecret truft in the ac. acceptation of God, fo as no miferie can beate them from the confi. deration and inward affiance of hope of mercie, in the verie disquiernesse of the heart the defire of the foule is to the Lord, &. before his presence though a childe of God be never fo much cast downe, yet hee waits vpon God, for the |

Pfa.38.9.

the helpe of his countenaunce, and in some measure condemnes the vnbeliese of his owne heart, and supporteth himselse with the hope of the neuer failing compassions of God: thus it differs from the sorrowes of Caine and Indas.

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becondlie, it is ioined with a wonderfull
loue of God for hearing of praier, it is most
deepelie affected with
euerie mercie of God
felt in praier, Danid
louesthe Lord, because
he hath beard his prai-

Pf2.42.5

Tam 3.23

Pfa.116.1

er at that time when his forrowes was as the paines of hell.

Pfa.119. 20,82, 33. Thirdlie, it is ioined with a longingafter the word.

Fourthlie, it is ioined with a constant desire to glorific God by a fruitefull profession; eueric one that truelle mourneth in Sion, is a tree of rightconsnesse, the planting of the

E (2y.61.2

glorified.

Fifthlie, it is joined with a spirit of supplications, forrow that is after God, will teach a Chri-

Lord, that he may bee

Christian to pray, that could neuer praie beforesthe spirit of compaffion, is a spirit of Supplication.

Laftlie, our forrowes must be tried by their effects, for godlie for-

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First, drives vs to a dailie and serious confestion of sinne in particular without hiding anie finne.

Secondlie, it breedes a tender sence of the burthen of finne; neuer doth a Christian feele the heavie loade of sinne as it is sinne, till Zac,12.10

Pfa.38,77

Lam-3.23

Fifthlie, it breedes lensiblenesse & thankfulnesse for all forts of mercie.

Lastlie, the Apostle notes seven effects of Godlie forrow, care,apologie, indignation,

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3,Cor.7.

feare, vehement delire, zeale and reneuge.

3. Loue to the word.

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Nío much as wicked men; especiallic fach as are indued with a temporary faith may have some kinde of affections to the word, we must carefullie trie our selnes, and examine our selves seriously.

fire it as our appointed foode constantie?

2. Whether wee loue them that loue the Pf.119-20

Iob.23.12

the word of God, and

8. Whether we re-

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not of men.

ceiue it in power and much affurance?

 Whether it worke effectually in vs the redresse of our waies and freedome from the bondage of sinne.

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lo. Whether wee love all the words of God, even the law that with threatning shews vs our finnes as well as the gospell; desiring to hide the word in our hearts that wee might not sinne.

our delire and delight to exercise our selues in it day and night.

12. Whe-

loh 4, 33. P[3,119, 45.9.59. 1, Thef, 2,

13.

Pfal.1,3 & 119.11.

Pfa.r.a.

Mar.10,2,

1.Cor. 3.

18.

15. Whether for the gospell sake we can bee content, to denie our reasons, affections,

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God (or rather for the

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3.loh.t. 3.

Eph. 1. 15.

Phile, 5.

ons to them, because wee doe no good to God himselfe) is not found in anie reprobate, and so to loue them simplie for the truths sake, whereas to loue them for beautie, prosit, companie sake, or any naturall or carnall reasons or ends in no signe at all.

Secondie, hee that truely loues the brethren, loues all the brethren; hee that loues not all the Saints, loues no Saint aright: a true

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Christian hath not the glorious faith of Christ in respect of persons, he loues the poorest, if he hauetrue grace, afwell as the richeft, yea he loues the absent afwell as the prefent, year he loues for the truths fake those he neuersaw yet this hinders not the difference of degrees of loue, lo as fome. may be more beloved then others, and that by reason of the greater measure of Gods gifts and graces, or els, by the special ypro-

nidence of God when

the

mail,

the Lord linketh the affection of fome Christians in fome speciall eminencic of respects, and so it is not alwaie needefull, that the perfons most loved, bee most gracious, it doth

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notofnecessine follow that Tohn was the most gracious of al the Apostles, though hee were most beloved. Agains as our love

mail bee extendent to all faints; to allo must it be to all times, we must loue them as well when they are in adversity, diffrace, temperators, sicknesse,

## Gods children. fickneffe, or any mifery; as when they abound in prosperitie or good estimation &cw 2/12 ni -DE o For shenckied . 1.John this love is without 18,19, diffimulation, it is in Rom, Th. deede and trueth, not in word or appearance onely. And belides it is a most affectionate and brotherly lope. (3) -noLattlie, there are fixe effects of true chris Minhous, fools howes things in the befilblit in Birthby honor, and this honoring of chem

4.5.6.7.

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themselves in comparison of them not easily provoked, not envying them, hoping all things, and yet not relioyeing in their iniquity.

cof all ce

昭都は小田市町山西山地

Fiftly, Apology for them against the reproches and somes of the

Sixthly by delight in their fellow thip, and fociety in the Gospell, in which respect they can be equal to them of the lower fort. Such as finde no need of, nor delight in the company

Pfal.16.3. Phil.1.5. 1.10h.1. Rom.11.1

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prosperity.

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Fourthly, by weldoing,& mercy, this love is bountifull, pietifull, tender, hath bowels both of spirituall and outward mercy, it gladly receaucth the faints, it 'communicates to their necessitie willing. lie, and with a readie minde. of our spin sed

Fiftly, by a defire to walke in offenfinely . he that loueth his bro 1.Joh, 3.10 there there is no occafion of flumbling, or scandall in him.

Laftly, the true loue of Gods children, will make D4

Rom.13 10,12. Phile, 7, 1.Pet 3,8, 80 4, 8, 1.loh.3, 17. 2.10h 5

Ephe. 4, 15,16, 1. Thef. 3, 12,13, 11Joh. 5,2.

make a man grow vp the fafter into lefts Christ, in all grace and holinesse.

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## 5. Faith.

Nalmuch, as there are divers kinds of faith, and experience factors in many that give no signes of repentance, that they will not bee beaten from a confident perswalion, that Christ died for them, even for them in particular. It stands vs in hand to try our perswalion by the

and if it will abide the criall of the touchfrone, we may lay it vp as hid treasure, and a wonderfull grace of God, and if otherwise we may repent of prefromption, as a deceaueable sinne.

Faith may be tried.

1. By the Canfe.

3. By the Concomitants.

For the first, true faith comment by the hearing of the word D 5 prea-

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preached: It is no naturall endowment, nor gotten by naturall helpes; But first is wrought by the holyghost, in the preaching of the Gospell, as is plaine by the Apostle. How shalthey beleeue in him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they heare without a Preacher.

Rom. 10,

Secondly, there are 6. properties of faith.

First, it accounts all things most base, in Comparison of the knowledge of Christ, and the loue of God in him

Phil.3 9

ons and difgraces, and

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temptations, yet it will not perish, nor be ashamed; it is a plate for the breast, and a helmet for the head. I. Thest. 7. Beps. 6. Whereas the best faith of Gods elect, will prove but drosse, is it be cast into the furnance of temptation; further then it is supported by carnall ends and helpes.

Luke & t3

Fiftly, it will beleeue all things that it apprehendeth to be required, threathed, or promiled in the word; to belieue fome things,

ACT3 24.

may

may be in other kindes of faith; especially such things as stand with reason, affecting common opinion, &c.

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Sixtly, in affliction it laieth hold on Gods promife or providence, fo as it will reft with quietness, for and not make haft to the vie of e-till, and vnwarranted meanes, hethat beleeveth maketh not haft.

Thirdly, it may bee tried by the concomitants of it. for,

First, it is fealed by the holy spirit of pro-

Efay 25.

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Eph.1.13,

mile ; for in enery beleeuer the promised spirit doth print in his heart the fauing graces of Christ, from the fight of which, as from fo many markes, compared with Gods promises in his word, arifeth by the effectuall working of the spirit, this affurance or per-(walion of faith : for though grace and faith bee given together, and grow vp together, yet the affurance of faith discouers not it felfe, till it discerne those companions of it with

with which it is daily incouraged, and confir. med and fetled, that faith that can be without fanctification of the spirit, is not the faith of Gods elect.

Secondly, it is ioyned with a good and pure conscience. Hee that is truly perswaded of Gods lone in Christ, maketh conscience of all his wayes, to feeke or doetheegood God requires , and anoyde the cuils God forbids;

Thirdly, it is ioyned with afpirit of differning, er wildome in matters

a Thef.

1. Tim. t. r.Tim t. He.10.31

matters of faluation, the minde being enlightened, to observe in some comfortable measure, the meaning of the holyghost, in all things needefull to faluation, in vse of the word, through the power of Gods ordinances, so as the verie simple may and doe attaine to a holy kinde of insight, and sharpe-

Pro.1.4,8,

PG.TTO

r,loh,jno

Rom,8,25

refle of indgement.

Fourthly, The true beleeuer hath a witnesse in himselfe, euen the witnesse of the spirit of adoption, infallible.

ble certifying himfelfe of Gods lone and his adoption

Fifthly, faith may be discerned by certaine effects of its for,

1. It breedeth ioy vnspeakeable and glorious, and that either through the senee of Gods favour and your

Gods fauour and your prefence, or in the hope of glorie to come. 2. It puts on and

applies a righteoufheffe, that is not by the worke of the fame, but in Christ onely.

3. It will make a man speake in the confession,

.Peur, &

Rom/sa

Rom.to.

66	Faith,
a.Cor 4 13-14-	fellion, profellion and defence of the truth of God, I have beleeved, therefore I (pake.
a,Cor.5.5 Gal.5.5	d. It workes the longing defires of Gods prefenceof glo-
Gall 7, a	feetuall lone of God and Gods children, & sheweth it selfe by the fruites of lone,
Heb, 1, 5.	6. It will main- taine a Christian in lome measure of suffi- ciencie and content- ment in all estates; the
Gal.sso.	infi lines by faith, not by friends, mony carth-

ly for the win production

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car-

profits, credit, pleafures

carnal friends or hopes
doe not sway and rules
the beleeuer, but hee
willinglie and patient
he refts in the treasures
and pleasures of a better world, yeelding
himselfe ouer to bee
guided by Christ and
his truth to the death
heart from ignorance;
wicked imaginations,

carnall delires, finfull perturbations, and all forts of fecter and inward finnes. And this it doth by sufing a man, dailie to feeke parden for them in

Christ,

F12.46.14

AGL 15.9 -

Christ, and by casting them out by confession and forrow, in the fame meafure, defiring inward puritie, that it reioyeeth in Gods Jone inighth

le leo. There is a fpring of grace in the heart of enery belower, whence followes daily the exercife of fundrie faving graces, which can netier bee wreally dried and and vp in abe beare of a et a dell

Christian pound that ismiry our faniour Christ meaneth when heer daith gurout tof his bellie hall flow rigers Second

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Secondly by the much affurance, which especially at som times worketh in the heart. Thirdly, by adaily holy firife, to preferue grace giuen vs, and to pregent falling away. Fourthly, by feerer

fuggettion ordirection, by which Gods fer uants are reclaimed when they goe out of the way , either on the left.

Fifthly, by the office it keepes in the heart of achriffian, as a fpine offudgement by which nance

I.The r.s

2.Tim-1.1

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of the word, & before Gods holy presence. Sixthly, by libertie

from the power of raigning and profumptuous finnes; where the spirit of God is,

Seventhly, by the

groath and fortilling of true grace.

Eighthly, by vnfpeakable toles, telt in the prefence of God, in the due vicos bis ordi-

nance

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s,Cor,3,

Rom. 8,10

14-01 M3 Efsy 44-3

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nance, by which a chriflian is enflamed to the lone of God, and all holy duties, and abased to the dust in the sence of his owne vileneffe called therefore the ioies of the holy ghoft: For as for earnall ioyes or illusions, either they are not felt in the vie of Gods ordinances, or els they breede pride, and conceited fecurity.

Ninchly, by requelts and supplications, affe-Gionable and with Zac,13,10 confidence powered Eph.3, 13 out vnto God as a father. the boat dods

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Rom.IA Ezec.39

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a sec, by which a chris 7. Uprighene To of beart\_

F thou wouldeft make triall of the truth and vprighneffe of thy heart, thou must seriously examine thy felfe:

Pia,32.2, Ioh. 1. 4

Prou. 10, 6,7. 21.2.mo. 01,51,063

Lplag, 14

First, whether thy fpirit be without guile, more desirous to be good, then to bee thought to be fo, and feeking more the power of godlinesse, then the flew of it.

Secondly, whether thou loue all good chings aswell as one, and hate all things as well as one.

Thirdly, whether that thou canst loue and forgine thy encmies, that hate, and difgrace, and wrong thee aswell as thy friends, that either wrong thee not; or but by infirmity to be a suit of the canst be content to receive duitat Gods hands a aswell as good; without murmuring

grity, being carefull to

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without mumuring lob1,1,80 or letting goethy inte-

God

P[249, 13

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gainst secret sinnes, aswell as open sinnes, bewailing the transgressions against the inward worship of God, as against the ontward.

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Ninthly, whether thy heart bee humble, patient, teachable, and tractable in some holy measure, increasing herein by the vie of Gods ordniance? an vpright heart, is a willing heart.

10 Whether thy defire bee to walke as in Gods presence.

11 Whether thou

E 3. finde

Heb. 2, 4 Pro, 21, 29 1, Chr, 28,

Gen,17,1

## Vprigbine fe

10b 8,5,6

finde a defire to be rid of sinne, and to humble thy felfe for it, in profperitie aswell as aduerfitie, and in the beginning of affictions, afwell as in the extremities of them.

Pfal 7 11,7.

12 Whether in wrongs and difgraces, when thou art innocent, thou canft (in the sence of thine owne vnworthinefleof Gods love) make God thy defence, refting in his fauour and acceptance.

pfaf.33,1 119 , 7.

140,13.

13 Whether thou dost endeauour to glorific God, aswell by gi-

ving

uing thankes for bieflings and graces, as for praying for lupplie of wants, for pardon of finnes.

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14 Whether thy heart be ftedfast, and fetled, without lying, flattering, or diffembling ; to feeking and praying for pardon, and deliuerance in aducritre, that thou wouldest practise it after release, this was a figne the Ifraclites were not vpright, in that they would crie to God in their distresse, but care not for their E 4 vowes

Pfa. 78,36

or de nided?for vnleffe the whole resolution of thy foule, with the vemost of thy defires, bee to walke in Gods

2, Chro.6, p[a,119'34

> waies, thy heart is not

not vpright.

e

18 Whetherthere be in thee a faithfulheart, to deale faithfullie in the charge and calling in which thou art, and to discharge it in the constionable seare of God?

19 Whether there be any finne thou couldeft not willinglie judg thy felfe for it, without hiding it, fo foone as thou knowest it to be a finne: This is the joy of a Christian, in the sense of his owne wants and weakenesses, that though he have manie

1-Chr. 19

Pfa.32. 11

thine owne iniquitie.

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victorie ouer the dec-

reft

reft finnes, the remoning of spirituall judgements, the damnation of their owne foules; that Israel might be faned, and fuch like.

There are three principall qualtities in the holie defires of Gods

cleats for

First, they are ficrie that is, fuch as cause the heart of man, to burnewithn him, with some measure of zeale for Gods glorie, indignation at finne, and feruent affection in Gods feruice, whereas the defires of the wicked, 3183

Rom,7

E(263,17

at leaft are either dull and cold, or transportedby the wrongs, ends tothe fauouring of linne.

Secondlie, they are constant both because they are remued dailie, as the meraphore of hunger and thirst doe importavallo tecaufe they are alike carried to the eternall fruition of the things defired, as to the present enioying ofthem: Gods fermants defire the fanour of God ; the abolithing of finne, the poffession of grace, norco ferne a teme 11

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turne for the present, but to be enjoyed as their portion for ever; for looke how the man vnregenerate desiresto commit finne, fordoth the regenerate desire to forfake but the former in lome fins doth commit them, with a defire ever to finne and à secret discontentmet to thinke that at anie time, he should not be able to finne. Euen fuch a contrarie defire is there in Gods elect ruely called, they fo defire notto finne, as it! is their griefe to thinke that

Efa,16,9

that at any time they should againe sinne, year assistion, doth not quench them but manie times instance them.

Thirdlie, they are not idle, which may appeare three waies. First, because they are carried after themeanes of good as well as good things themselues: and that in a great measure too. Secondly, because they are attended with a resolution to doe any thing that their desires may bee accomplished: they aske what should

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Pfa,1,63 1

Pfa. 27-4

1, Pet,1, 1

Acts 2, 37

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they doe to be faued? as taking it for graunted, that they must bee industrious in Gods worke. There is no labour, but they would endenour to doe it, fo the Lord would bee mercifull vinto them to graunt them their defire, yea when they haue done all, they ftill are humbled because they can doe no more, nor no better. Thirdlie, they cannot rest till in some happie meafure they ouercome, the most manterly corruption cither of nature

Rouciat,6

.50	Holse desires.
	ture or life. Third/ie, holy desires- are accompanied: First, with a super-
Mat.13. 45-46.	naturall valuation of the worth of spirituall things accouting them
Pfa.42.	pearle of the best price not to deere bought if they buie them with the sale of al they haue;
Pfa,63.1.3	and contrariwife ac- counting themselves exceeding poore and
	distressed, if they want them or the meanes of
	them, esteeming Gods louing kindnesse bet- ter then life,
01.5081.0	Secondly , with a-

voluntary forfaking of Heb 11,13 the vnnecessarie pleafures and profit of the world, thankfully receining the promifes of a better life, and eafily. confeffing that they are strangers and pilgrimes on the earth.

Thirdly, with a conflant and fecret meditation ofheauenly things defired, what one defires feruently, hee thinkes on almost continuallie.

Fourthly, Holy defires showe themselves by divers effects or confequents of them, especi-

Ifay 16.9 Pla.63, 1,

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Laftlie, they arife

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Mar. 11,14

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#### The obedience

10 Iolh, 12.5

of Gods elect is from the heart, not confirmined but volutary, their hearts being inflamed with the sence of Gods goodnesse, and humbled when they have done their best, that they cannot bring more glory to God; it is a ready obedience without repining, excuse or delay.

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Mat.4. 19

Rom,6,17

Ex.itg. 26 1.Kin. 9. 4 Jet. 11.4 lob.15.14 a If it bee in all things, with respect to all Gods commaundements, a wicked man may obtain in many things but there is some one commaundement he

he would be dispensed withall as Hered

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2 Hee can bee content to obey against profit, pleasure credit; libertie, case or the liking of the world or carnall friends, preferring Gods comaundemets about all things; Mat 16.25 yealife it felfe.

4. If it follow the conscionable practice of the duties of mortification, of finnes past or prefent, the reformation and profession of fuch people as did neuer in secret bumble their foules for finne,

F3

Ad 13.33 Deu, 30, 2

Ier. 35 Heb. 11.8 GE,23 12 Pro. 7.3 Acts 5. 39

may

may be much suspected, for our hearts must be purified to obey the truth.

fit bee in abfence as vvell as prefence, in all companies
as vvell as anie, before meane Christians, as before the
best, at home as well
as abroad.

Gal. 5.7 2. King 18 6. Pf2.106.2

Phil. 1, 11

6 litte be alwaies, as well as for a fits

Heb. 13

obey Gods Ministers, as the ouerfeers of our foules and lines, directing vs out of the Word, as well as if ded immediatly from

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:5

8 If wee obey in the Comaundements of faith, as well aslife, submitting our selves to God, as well by beleeving as by dooing, yeelding our service as well to the Gospell as to the Lawe.

of If wee obey in the least commaundement, as well as in the greatest, making conscience of the smallest shings required, or forbidden in the Word.

F4 10 It

Rő,16 16 Ró,16, 26 2. The.s. 8

Mat 1. 19 Gal 57. 10 It is an obedience that followes the fanctification of the spirit. Holy dutyes without they flowe from holy graces within; neither can the life bee holy before God, if the heart bee not made holy, by the grace of lesus Christ.

It It is ioyned with the raigne of no finne; a Christian that truly obeyes God may have many finnes, but there is no finne to which he yeelds himselfe wholly over, by secret vows and resolution as a feruant

Rom.s

uant to obey it : hee may faile in his obedience, fo as hee cannot dowhat God requires as he requires; but yet hee contents to obey, and his will is to hire himselfe to doe Gods worke afwell as he can, And to this end hee hearkneth to his voice, & feekes God with his whole heart; that hee may keepe his tellimonies, he consenteth to obey, and observes to doe : he comes to the light that his deedes may bee made mani-

Dent Ave

Joh 3.43

Laft. F3.

4. By the properties.

For the first, by this knowledge the electronic are inlightned by the spirit of reutilation.

right of the nature of God, in fome measure of God, in fome measure propounding before the eye of their minds the Lord, as hee is repealed in the word, at least by way of acquito casting our allike miles of any creared nature.

2. To winders and to have manner of Gods worship, and in

3 To

108	Sauing knowledge.
	3 To knowe their owne iniquities & vile-
1er.3.11	nesse, in respect of cor-
Phi.2-9-19	life. 4 To know Chrift
1,Cor.1.3	s To know God in
8,19. lerg 1.34	6 To know the for-
THE STA	gipenes of their owne
	7 To knowe the voice of Christ, difeer- ning it in some mea-
lob tag.	fure from the voice of
1 30.3.14	8 To knowe their
Pro.9.10.	al needful holy things.

o To knowe the things given them of God, & especially the inhabitation of the fpi ritof Chrift.

10 To knowe their owne faluation.

Secodly, this knowledge may bee discerned from other knowledge, by the causes: for.

I Flesh and blood Mai,1637 bath not renealed is, ie isa wisdominamyftery it is ginen of God in Christ by the anointing of the fpirit.

2 Affliction of conference, breeds the fence

a.cor.13.5 1. Cor. 2.

23. Joh. 14. 17, 20,

1. Cot. 1.

1. Cor. 1.7 1. Joh. s. 27.80 5.30

Pl 36.8.g.

FIO

Ho.6.1.2.

of G.O.D. the very first beginning of it, is excited by the feare of G.O.D. and it grow-

tentments felt in Gods

house.

Col,399

Pro,1.7

Job. 18,18

fence

cth

eth as holinoffe, grace, and good works grow in vs.

Joh,7, 17 2,Pe, 3.18

Thirdly, it hash fixe companions of it among the reft, that in special lattend it.

Pfal. 119.

1 The loue of the

Phil. 2.8

A holy estimation of it about all possessions, showed, in that a Christianabout all, getting labors to get this vnderstanding, and reioyceth in it asthefairest ornament.

Pro.3.3.4.

aq 3 Teachablenoffei

Pro & a.19

142	Sauing knowledge.
Rom, 8, 5. 2, Cor. 2, 14.	4. A fauour of spiri- tuall things.
Phil. 2.9	ward feelings of the power of the word & ordinances of God.
Phi 1.9.10	6 The love of Gods childre which aboun- deth as this know- ledge growes.
	Fourthly it hath fix properties.  1 It is affectionate,
leng1.34 Den.4 6	ie is not written in the head, but in the heart and bowels.
Pf.111.10 Pfa, 33, 6 Joh, 3, 55 1.Joh, 2, 3 Rf, 24	2 It tends to action and practice. 3 It is confiant and indelible, it hash deepe
Phil. 1.9	A h im-

not the impotent ru-

diments

diments and beggerlie inuentions of men, in the things of the kingdome of Iefus Chrift.

Pro.14,8

Col.3, 16

Sixthlie, it leades a man principally to vnderstand his own way; and by it a manteacheth and admonisheth himselfe.

Laftly, it beareth fruite better then gold fre. 8.19. and by the fruites or effects it may be knowne.

1. It lafteth out conccitednesse, diffidence, insensiblenesse of Gods mercies and judgements, and vnthankful-

neffe,

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119

nesse: he that hath true knowledge, will not leane to his owne naturall wisedome, hee will trust in the Lord, and acknowledge him

ro.3,5,6

2. It makes a man humble and lowlie, in the same measure that one abounds in true knowledge, in the same measure hee is made more lowlie and

in all his waics.

Pro. 8,13

meeke, and carefull in all his waies; no feorner can finde this wifedome.
3. I emorrifieth boi-

3. I emortifieth boiferous & varulie, hatefull

### The spirit Orc.

full & hurtfull affections, it will make a lion become a lambe, and a beare, or a wolfe, or a cockatrice, to be willingly guided, eu en by a little childe, &c.

4. It extinguishesh or greatly dulleth the fauor of earthly things and makes a man heavenly minded.

7. This and such like other affects are altogether set downe by the Apostle James in his third Chapter, and the seuenteene and eighteene verses.

12. Lone

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rfa,rt,9

fam,3. 17

# 12. Loue of God.

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VR love to God, may bee knowen. First, by the fincere and

incorrupt love of the Lord lefus, the fonne of his loue.

Secondlie, by the love of his image in al the faints of God, that are begotten by him.

Thirdly, by the base estimatio of the world and the lufts thereof, for if anie man, loue 1,10h,2,15 the world, the lone of the

1,10h,5,1

Pfa.34-5 37,4-1

Iola, t, 1

speake often to God by praier, and beare him peake often to:vi, in his other ordinances,

2. If

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2. If we love, and long for his appearing.
3. If we bewaile his ablence as a bitter croffe.

4.If we fer the Lord daily be ore vs.

house.

Sixehly, by our care to keepe his commandements, and to be as he is in holinesse, which may be further tried.

r. If we willinglie receiue his commaundements, for this is the loue of God, that wee keepe his commandements, & his commandements 2 Tim.4,8

Cantig.

PG. 16,8

Pfa.16,8

10h,14, 21 1,10h 4-17

riblis 3

dements are not grieuous,

2. If we ferue him with all our hearts and all our foules.

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3. If it be our care to walke in al his waies and not to offend in any thing.

Scuenthly, by our fensiblenesse of his dischonor if we be more vexed for his dishonour, then our owne disgrace.

Eightly, by remembring his benefits and magnitying his mercies, for what wee lone we cally praife,

Ninthly,

Dest.to

Deu,11.83 Iof,33,5.

Pfa,63.1.3 4.6,8 1 07 114 10b,36,14 Deut,6, 1. Ninthlie, by our care not onely to do his will but to please him, being more incouraged with his praise and approbation, then the praise of al men.

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hislake.

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as of linne, because God hates it, so of sinners, because they hate

fire vp our affections after God, avoiding what might flealeaway our hearts from him,

Exod,15

1,Ch 28,9 1,Co.7,33 Heb,13,28

Joh 22, 15 to 19.

Pfa.97,10 Pfa. 139

Loue of God.

refh/agan

and delighting in al the waies, by which our hearts might be inflamed towards him, and to this end taking heede to our felues.

13. By our running to him in all aduerlitie, making him our defence, our refuge in all trouble, to them we first runneto make our mone, whom we most loue.

Pfa 18,1.3

14. By our willingneffe, affectionatelie to doe the meanest office vnto God, or Christ, or for his fake this was a

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ai th figne that Marie loued much, because she was content to wash with her teares, and wiped with her haire the very seete of Christ.

in the sence of Gods loue to vs, for efe the more a Christian discouers Gods loue to him, the more his affection to God, makes him seeme base & vile in his ownceles.

for our finnes and willingnesse to forfake and cup off from ve, the most gainefull

Luk.7. 44 4 5.46,47

1.Cor.8,3

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Deu 30, 6

gainefull and pleafing corruptions, this is ment by the circumcifing of the heart, that we might love God.

13. The facraments.

He facraments are fore feales and infallible pledges of Gods, lone and our faluation, to the worthie receiver and he receives wor, thelie.

L CoLts

Firth, that defires to fearch his heart and examine his life, before hereceipe. Ann only

& Second-

Secondly, that dilcernes the Lords body that meditates oft, and is in knowledge infallibly per waded of the inward & effectual prefence of the Lord to he worthie receiver.

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Thirdlie, that eates with forore herbs, that is, that comes with fome measure of sence and feeling with the burthen of his sinnes, & defire to make them his greates forrow.

Fourthlie, that resolueth and purposeth and inwarld lie, cournaunteth in his soule,

G<sub>3</sub> to

Fredra

the ioies of Gods prefence, and the working

h

126

t,Cor,5,8

Mat. 26.14 Collaga

ing of Gods spirit, inwardly scaling in his heart the perswasion of his interest in Gods Fph. 1,13 promifes, bearing wit- 1. Cor,1,23 neffe to his spirit, that God is graciously reconciled in Christ, and his sinnes are pardoned &c.

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> Seventhly, that loues all the brethren and defires to bee furthered in all holie communion with them, both in grace and glorie ; being readie to witnesse before God and men his refolution to honour and G. 4 cleaue

## 14. The feare of God.

He true feare of God may be discerned; first, by effects; fecondly, by the properties of it.

First, The true feare God, workes a care & endeuour to lerueGod and

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and keepe his commaundements, and by the feare of God men depart from cuill : For it teacheth men to hate euill, as pride, arrogancie, the euill way, and a froward mouth : the wife man faith; He that wal kethin vprightnesse feareth the Lord, and by that figne he may bee knowne cuen by aconsionable care to walke vprightlie with God in holie life.

Secondly, it casts out carnall feares, he is nor in much feare of men;

Deu, 6. 13 & 8, 6 Pro. 8, 13 16, 6 Revi. 15, 4

Pro 14,3

Ma.10,18

EL8,11,13

that can kill the bodie, that is truely touched with the feare of God, that can destroy both body and foule, hee feares not their feare, nor the feares of the wicked men, but in fome measure fanctifies God in his heart,

Thirdlie, It makes a man delirous and capable of fauing knowledge : forthis feare of God, is the beginning

of-wiledome.

Secondlie, there bee fine properties of the true scare of God.

Firft,

Pro.147

First, it is fincere, for he that truelie feares God.

I. Feares Gods offence aswell as pnnishment.

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2. Hee will feare Gods presence being carefull to anoide such sinnes, as no eic sees but Gods.

3. He will feare God though he fee no reward in his hand.

4. He feares Gods word and is moretroubled and humbled by the threatning of it, then by the threatning of anic mortall man, and

Pia,119

and will obey the voice of Gods feruants, whatfocuer comes of it,

gainst reason, affection profit, or pleasure, for so faith the Lord to why aham; now I know thou fearest God seeing thou hast not withheld thy sonne, thy only sonne.

Sccondly, it is filiall, not fervile, which may appeare in five things, for first it is ioined with the love of God, and so is not the scare of reprobates; secondly

Den 1213

Gé, 21,13

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it is not compelled by fcare or sence of iudgements, but exci. ted by the fence of Gods goodnesse and mercie. For fo the conuerts in Hofea, are faid to feare God and his goodnesse. Thirdly, it guides the heart of man to runne to God; and not from God) to bee healed of the wounds made by finne and to bee protected, ftriuing even before God , to discouer and get ftrength gainst the sinnes that trouble them; fourthly

ffa,29, 23 Hof.3,5 •

Ma,4,3

Pfa.31.19 & 119. 11 & 147. 11 It makes a man trust in God, and ere the more it increaseth, the more it worketh assauce and confidence in Gods mecry. 5. It causeth a man to loue and cleaue to such as are Gods Children, though they be in difgrace with the world.

Pla.119,79

Thirdly, it is a speaking feare, it will speak to God by prayer, and to menb y conference, it cannot be silent; but will speake in defence of Gods glory & truth and seekes to draw others from sinne.

Mal. 3, 16

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4 It is a contenting feare, it finds treasures in godlinesse, and is fatisfied with his portio, and will abide fatisfied wheras the feares of re- Efa. 33. probates are either full of inwarde horror of conscience, or perturbation in the heart.

It is constant, it is not for a fit, but alwaies, not in ficknesse or misery, but in prosperity, or all aboundance, & contrariwise not in prosperity only, when men may feare God witthout dauger but in trouble alfo.

1) Lone

Pro.19.33

Ecc.8. 13 Deut6-14 15. Loue of enemies.

Or loue to our enemics is fincere.

I If we can pray for

2 If we can voluntarily mourne & humble our foules for them in their diffres fes.

3 If we truly defire their conversion, and find that we could love the vnfainedly if they had repented.

4 If we can forgine them their trespasses against vs.

5 If

Mar. 5. 44

Pfa.35,13

Mar, 6. 14

5 If wee bee more grieucd for their finnes against God, then for their wrongs to vs.

6. If we can acknowledge freely their inft

praifes.

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7 If we can pariently and meekely endure their reuilings, being willing to bee at peace without reuenge.

8 If wee can forbeare when wee could bring sname or misery on them.

o If we can endeauor to ouercome their euill with goodnesse, and to relieue them in misery, ,Pe,3,10

1. Sam. 34 18.19.

138	Defire of death.
Rom.13 Pro,35-31 33	mifery, or to doe any other good, either for body or foule.
1	16. Defire of death.
Luk.s.ap, 30 PL39.1,4 Iob.6.9, 10 Rom 7,34 Heb.9. 28	THE desire of death will bee our Testimonie.  1. If it arise out of the sence of Gods love.  2. If it bee conceived in time of prosperity:  3. Especially, if it arise out of a weariness of our owne sins, and the sinness of others.  4. If it come from a long-

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## Defire of death.

longing after Gods e. ternal presence.

If it bee ioyned with a defire after the 3, Pet,3,11 way how to be faued, and an indeauor after holy conversation and godlinesse.

6. If it breed cou rage and patience vnder tribulation.

7 If it make fervent in prayer,

8 If it extinguish the eager desires after carthly things.

g If wee be gladat heart of his comming.

play sigh day week

139

Phil. t 1.Cor. 1.8

Pfs, 90,13

1. COT.4.16 \$ 1.3 3.Tim.47 Rom 1.3 Pfa.2.0 13 Rom, 8,33 12, 26,

He. 12, 16 12.15. Re 22,30